



RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO DIRECT THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES TO INCREASE EFFORTS TO EQUALLY PRIORITIZE, EXPEDITE, AND ENFORCE THE TIMELY REMOVAL OF DERELICT AND ABANDONED VEHICLES ON OAHU.

WHEREAS, although the Department of Customer Services ("CSD") Motor Vehicle Control ("MVC") Section removed almost 3,000 abandoned and derelict vehicles from public roadways in Fiscal Year 2018, significant numbers of abandoned or derelict vehicles on Oahu's roadways continue to be a safety issue or blight, or both; and

WHEREAS, at a recent presentation to the City Council's ("Council") Committee on Transportation, the MVC Section and the Honolulu Police Department ("HPD") reported that there are currently separate processes in place to address derelict and abandoned vehicles in the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, while the HPD responds to validly-registered vehicles that have been stationary for more than 24 hours, the MVC Section deals with invalidly-registered vehicles that are blights or are stripped of parts, or both; and

WHEREAS, in responding to reports of abandoned vehicles, an HPD officer will investigate and:

1. If the officer determines that the vehicle is stolen, a traffic hazard, an illegally parked vehicle, or a vehicle involved in any unusual or suspicious circumstances, the officer will take appropriate action, including having the vehicle towed; or
2. If the vehicle appears to be abandoned without meeting any of the above-mentioned criteria, the officer will chalk one of the vehicle's tires and return after 24 hours to determine whether the vehicle has been moved or is stationary. If the officer determines that the vehicle has not been moved and is suspected of being abandoned, the officer will then cite the vehicle and proceed to process the vehicle as an abandoned vehicle, resulting in the vehicle being towed from the roadway; and

WHEREAS, by contrast, the MVC Section, when responding to reports on its complaints line of abandoned or derelict vehicles, will schedule an inspector to visit the location and investigate. If the inspector determines that the vehicle has been abandoned, the inspector will mark it as abandoned and request that the vehicle be towed, prioritizing those vehicles that pose a health and safety issue, including becoming shelters for crime and homelessness; and



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, despite the current processes in place to address the issue, the problem of abandoned and derelict vehicles on public roadways persists, especially in certain areas of Oahu, including in communities and neighborhoods along the Leeward coast; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that although the new processes in place, as well as the positive attitude displayed by the CSD and the HPD in addressing this issue, are appreciated, certain challenges to the system including insufficient resources, staff, and storage facilities, along with archaic technological databases and the need to comply with federal regulations applicable to vehicle owners in the military, continue to hamper the removal of abandoned and derelict vehicles from public roadways in a timely fashion; and

WHEREAS, the Council further finds that in much the same way that residents who report potholes on Oahu public roadways do not particularly care if the roadway is a State or City road, residents who report abandoned and derelict vehicles do not particularly care if a particular vehicle falls under the operational purview of the HPD or the CSD, but simply want the vehicle removed in an effective, efficient, and timely manner; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it urges the City Administration to direct the Honolulu Police Department and the Department of Customer Services to increase efforts to equally prioritize, expedite, and enforce the timely removal of derelict and abandoned vehicles on Oahu; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Customer Services also make additional efforts to publicize the City and County of Honolulu's free Junk Vehicle Program that will dispose of a motor vehicle owner's unwanted vehicle at no charge, as well as explore a new single reporting system that simplifies the process and does not require residents to determine which of two systems to utilize; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Customer Services and the Honolulu Police Department report to the Council on its updated efforts to equally prioritize, expedite, and enforce the removal of derelict and abandoned vehicles on Oahu, as well as efforts by the Department of Customer Services to publicize its Junk Vehicle Program and institute a simpler reporting system, no later than 90 days after the approval of this resolution; and



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 19-75

RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Chief of Police, and the Director of Customer Services.

INTRODUCED BY:

Kimberly P. ...

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAR 20 2019

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 19-75

Introduced: 03/20/19 By: KYMBERLY PINE

Committee: PARKS, COMMUNITY
SERVICES AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS

Title: RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO DIRECT THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES TO INCREASE EFFORTS TO EQUALLY PRIORITIZE, EXPEDITE, AND ENFORCE THE TIMELY REMOVAL OF DERELICT AND ABANDONED VEHICLES ON OAHU.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

04/23/19	PARKS, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS	CR-118 – RESOLUTION REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR ADOPTION. 3 AYES: ANDERSON, MENOR, TSUNEYOSHI. 2 EXCUSED: ELEFANTE, MANAHAN.
NOTE: COUNCILMEMBER WATERS TOOK OFFICE ON MONDAY, MAY 6, 2019.		
05/08/19	COUNCIL	CR-118 AND RESOLUTION 19-75 WERE ADOPTED. 8 AYES: ANDERSON, ELEFANTE, FUKUNAGA, MANAHAN, MENOR, PINE, TSUNEYOSHI, WATERS. 1 ABSENT: KOBAYASHI.

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.


GLEN I. TAKAHASHI, CITY CLERK


IKAIKA ANDERSON, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER